



5295
Mark Waxenberg

**Testimony of
Mark Waxenberg, Director Government Relations
Connecticut Education Association**

**Connecticut Education
Association**

Before the

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

***Re: Raised Bill #5295 'An Act Concerning Municipalities
and Prescription Drug Plans'***

March 2, 2010

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Good afternoon Senator Crisco, Representative Fontana and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee. My name is Mark Waxenberg, Director of Government Relations of the Connecticut Education Association.

The Connecticut Education Association supports Raised Bill #5295 'An Act Concerning Municipalities and Prescription Drug Plans. Healthcare costs are, without question, the major cost drivers of local education budgets. Every day we read stories about local districts that are in deficit or have to cut costs due to healthcare increases. We have seen districts with over 20% increase in healthcare costs which places significant stress on local education budgets.

A small, but meaningful, step is offered in Raised Bill #5292 where districts can reduce pharmaceutical costs of their plans. A sampling of our local associations shows that about 40% of school districts could benefit financially from this legislation.

Please support Raised Bill #5292 "An Act Concerning Municipalities and Prescription Drug Plans' to allow cities, towns and school districts to save much needed revenue.

Thank You.